

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 22, 2003 has been fully considered by the Applicant. Claims 1, 6, 8 and 9 are currently amended; claims 2-5, 7, 10 have been previously amended; and claims 11-13 are original.

The specification has been objected to because of the differences between the British and American spelling of certain English words, such as program and utilize. Corrections have been made throughout the specification to change the spelling to the American English style spelling.

Claims 1-13 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,754,651 to Blatter et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,835,493 to Magee et al. Independent claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the wording that it is the data packet identifiers (PIDs) that are demultiplexed and remapped under the control of the receiver and that the packets of data in the transport stream correspond to the PIDs are then multiplexed into a single transport without further modification. The basis for these amendments are found in the specification on Page 4, paragraphs 2 and 3, and Page 7, penultimate paragraph.

The advantage of the present invention is that it avoids identifier clashes between packets of data from different transport streams. Unlike professional remultiplexing equipment, it is not necessary to adjust the contents of the data packets in order to avoid clashing in the present invention, just the PIDs. Since the identifier remapping is performed under the control of the receiver, all necessary information is available to the receiver without the entire data stream having to be repurposed. The present invention therefore represents a cost effective and simple solution to problems in the prior art.

The prior art identified by Examiner Hoyer relates to manipulation of the data packets themselves including PIDs rather than just the PIDs to allow a single data stream to be formed from a plurality of data streams. As such, the identified prior art suffers from the same problems associated with prior art multiplexing equipment.

More specifically, US Patent No. 2,754,651 teaches to a system and method for reducing the processing and storage overhead imposed by Program Specific Information (PSI) used in program content recovery. The invention condenses PSI and adaptively inserts the condensed PSI in a packetized data stream to provide reduced processing and storage overhead. Thus, an input packetized data stream representing a plurality of programs involves selecting a desired program from the plurality of programs. Program content packets comprising the selected program are identified and condensed program specific information (CPSI) and the identified packets are formed into a data stream. Thus, the packetized data stream including the PIDs is demodulated and repurposed in US 5,754,651 and not just the PIDs as in the present invention. US Patent No. 5,754,651 therefore provides no teaching to the solution of the present invention.

The United States Patent No. 5,835,493 to Magee et al teaches to a remultiplexer for communicating programs originating from plural input transport streams into a single transport stream. The remultiplexer does this by selecting transport packets and assembling the packets into a single output stream. Thus, US Patent No. 5,835,493 suffers from the same problems as US 5,754,651 to Blatter et al and provides no further teaching to the solution of the present disclosure. Amended claim 1 is therefore both novel and inventive over the identified prior art documents.

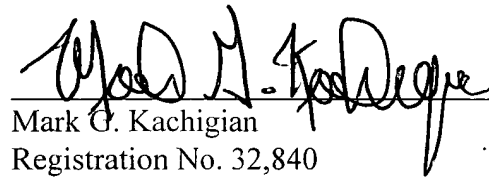
Applicant's believe that the claims as amended herein overcome the prior art and therefore respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection.

3

It is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. If any further issues remain, a telephone conference with the Examiner is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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